# Citizens Redistricting Commission Newsletter Article Copy

#### 130 Word Article

## **Real Power for Real People**

California voters have given themselves a big new job – and the state is about to start looking for the right people to do it. Why not you?

Under Proposition 11 – the Voters First Act – the once-a-decade job of drawing new districts for the state Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization will go to 14 voters chosen to serve on California's first Citizens Redistricting Commission.

The commission puts real power with real people – political candidates, lobbyists and big political donors can't serve. The commission will be made up of five Democrats, five Republicans, and four members from neither party – so every view will have a voice.

It's easy to apply. Go to <a href="www.WeDrawtheLines.ca.gov">www.WeDrawtheLines.ca.gov</a> for details and more information. Applications will be accepted online between December. 15, 2009, and February 12, 2010.

#### 207 Word Article

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"This is an exciting opportunity for California voters to roll up their sleeves and have a real impact – it's an experiment in direct democracy," said State Auditor Elaine Howle, whose office is overseeing creation of the commission.

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"With a state as big and diverse as California, who draws the lines – and how those lines are drawn – will truly shape the future of our state," Howle said. "Nominate yourself to make real change and get involved."

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